

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry propaganda "documentary" days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. One-sided programs like "Stolen Honor" do not serve the public interest and are harmful to our democracy.

When large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for their bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. I believe that it is more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter, rather than homogenized news developed at a central location and dispersed nationally. Big Media is suffocating journalism and democracy itself.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules. The license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

Sinclair is not serving our community appropriately and should be reprimanded. Media consolidation must not be allowed to continue to devour our local concerns.

Thank you.